

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SSM-03 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 IO-13 /085 W
-----095385 191426Z /45

R 190838Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9738
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT POUCH
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 7096

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EG, PLO, JO, MO
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI RAPPROCHMENT: KUWAIT POSITION AND SADAT-
PLO RELATIONS

1. GOK POSITION RESTATED. THE GOK STILL GUARDS ITS OFFICIAL
SILENCE OVER THE SADAT TRIP TO ISRAEL AND THE CURRENT CAIRO
MEETING, BUT THE GOK HAS SPOKEN OUT ONCE AGAIN ABOUT
CONCERN FOR ARAB UNITY, AND A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT ARAB VISITORS
ARE HERE OR ARE EXPECTED SHORTLY. KUWAITI FON MIN SHEIKH
SABAH AL-AHMAD REPORTEDLY REITERATED TO A JORDANIAN NEWSPAPER
THAT KUWAIT SUPPORTS THE DECISIONS OF PREVIOUS ARAB SUMMITS
AND REJECTS ALL ARAB GROUPINGS WHICH LEAD TO FURTHER DISAGREE-
MENT OVER THE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI RELATIONSHIP, ADDING, HOWEVER,
THAT THE TIME IS NOT YET RIPE FOR "ANY INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE
ARAB SOLIDARITY." THE KUWAIT PRESS QUOTES OFFICIAL SOURCES
TO THE EFFECT THAT KUWAIT IS RECEIVING THE FOLLOWING
OFFICIAL VISITORS: KING HUSSEIN (DEC. 19); PLO LEADERS
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KHALID AL-FAHOUM AND FAROUK KADDOUMI (DC. 18); AHMAD
BIN SOUDA, SPECIAL ENVOY OF MOROCCAN KING HASSAN, WHO
PRESENTED A MESSAGE DEC. 17 TO THE KUWAITI AMIR ABOUT
MOROCCO'S EFFORTS TO PROMOTE ARAB SOLIDARITY; AND AN
AS YET UNIDENTIFIED EGYPTIAN EMISSARY, WHO IS TO BRIEF
KUWAITI OFFICIALS ON THE CAIRO TALKS.

2. SADAT AND THE PLO. THERE IS A REPORT IN THE KUWAITI PRESS DEC. 18 WHICH QUOTES A PLO SPOKESMAN IN KUWAIT AS SAYING THAT SADAT NEVER SENT AN "INVITATION" TO THE PLO TO ATTEND THE CAIRO CONFERENCE, BUT MERELY SENT A "MEMORANDUM" REQUESTING THE PLO TO SEND A DELEGATION "TO DISCUSS HOW PALESTINIANS COULD BE REPRESENTED AT THE CAIRO MEETING." THE SPOESMAN REPORTEDLY ADDED THAT THE QUESTION IS MOOT, SINCE THE PLO IS "OPPOSED TO THE TALKS WITH THE ENEMY IN ANY FORM". ANOTHER LOCAL AND ALLEGEDLY EXCULSIVE REPORT IN AL RAI AL AM (DEC. 18) QUOTES THE PLO'S SALAH KHALAF (IN ALGERIA) AS ATTACKING SADAT BY ASSERTING THAT "THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION DID NOT ACQUIRE LEGITIMACY FROM THE RABAT CONFERENCE BUT FROM THE RIFLE (AND THAT) SADAT IS TRYING TO INTERFERE IN PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS BY CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ISRAELIS IN THE PALESTINIANS' NAME. EVERYTHING THAT IS AGREED OR PLANNED AWAY FROM THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE CAN BE ANNULLED BY ONE SHOT. NO PARTY CAN REPRESENT THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE EXCEPT THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION." (COMMENT: WE FIND IT IRONIC THAT THE POSITION OF THE PLO AS THE RECOGNIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIANS NOW RESTS ON BASES DISTINCT FROM THE RABAT DECISIONS.)
SUTHERLAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KUWAIT07096
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770472-0089
Format: TEL
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771241/aaaabiof.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 321b0601-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 188691
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI RAPPROCHMENT: KUWAIT POSITION AND SADAT- PLO RELATIONS
TAGS: PDEV, EG, JO, MO, KU, PLO, (SADAT, ANWAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/321b0601-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009